



H O L Y C R O S S

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# College of the Holy Cross

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## Mission Statement

The College of the Holy Cross is, by tradition and choice, a Jesuit liberal arts college serving the Catholic community, American society, and the wider world. To participate in the life of Holy Cross is to accept an invitation to join in dialogue about basic human questions: What is the moral character of learning and teaching? How do we find meaning in life and history? What are our obligations to one another? What is our special responsibility to the world's poor and powerless?

As a liberal arts college, Holy Cross pursues excellence in teaching, learning, and research. All who share its life are challenged to be open to new ideas, to be patient with ambiguity and uncertainty, to combine a passion for truth with respect for the views of others. Informed by the presence of diverse interpretations of the human experience, Holy Cross seeks to build a community marked by freedom, mutual respect, and civility. Because the search for meaning and value is at the heart of the intellectual life, critical examination of fundamental religious and philosophical questions is integral to liberal arts education. Dialogue about these questions among people from diverse academic disciplines and religious traditions requires everyone to acknowledge and respect differences. Dialogue also requires us to remain open to that sense of the whole which calls us to transcend ourselves and challenges us to seek that which might constitute our common humanity.

The faculty and staff of Holy Cross, now primarily lay and religiously and culturally diverse, also affirm the mission of Holy Cross as a Jesuit college. As such, Holy Cross seeks to exemplify the long-standing dedication of the Society of Jesus to the intellectual life and its commitment to the service of faith and promotion of justice. The College is dedicated to forming a community that supports the intellectual growth of all its members while offering them opportunities for spiritual and moral development. In a special way, the College must enable all who choose to do so to encounter the intellectual heritage of Catholicism, to form an active worshipping community, and to become engaged in the life and work of the contemporary church.

Since 1843, Holy Cross has sought to educate students who, as leaders in business, professional, and civic life, would live by the highest intellectual and ethical standards. In service of this ideal, Holy Cross endeavors to create an environment in which integrated learning is a shared responsibility, pursued in classroom and laboratory, studio and theater, residence and chapel. Shared responsibility for the life and governance of the College should lead all its members to make the best of their own talents, to work together, to be sensitive to one another, to serve others, and to seek justice within and beyond the Holy Cross community.



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# Academic Calendar

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1996-1997

## Fall Semester

Saturday	August 31	First-year students arrive Mass of the Holy Spirit
Sunday	September 1	Orientation
Monday	September 2	LABOR DAY First-year Students:A.M. Advising P.M. Registration
Tuesday	September 3	CLASSES BEGIN
Friday	September 13	Last day to add/drop courses
Friday	September 20	Last day to declare a course on the pass/no pass basis
Monday	October 14	Columbus Day; no classes
Tuesday	October 15	No classes
Friday	October 25	Parents' Weekend
Saturday	October 26	Parents' Weekend
Sunday	October 27	Parents' Weekend
Tuesday	November 12	Last day to obtain a W
Tuesday	November 26	Thanksgiving recess begins after last class
Monday	December 2	Classes resume
Tuesday	December 10	Study period begins
Friday	December 13	Final examinations begin
Friday	December 20	Final examinations end

## Spring Semester

Monday	January 13	Advising
Tuesday	January 14	CLASSES BEGIN
Friday	January 24	Last day to add/drop courses
Friday	January 31	Last day to declare a course on the pass/no pass basis
Friday	February 28	Spring vacation begins after last class
Monday	March 10	Classes resume
Tuesday	March 25	Last day to obtain a W
Wednesday	March 26	Easter recess begins after last class
Tuesday	April 1	Classes resume
Tuesday	April 29	Study period begins
Friday	May 2	Final examinations begin
Friday	May 9	Final examinations end
Thursday	May 22	BACCALAUREATE EXERCISES
Friday	May 23	COMMENCEMENT

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# The College of the Holy Cross: Profile

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One of the best liberal arts colleges in the United States, Holy Cross is highly respected for its superior undergraduate academic programs, excellent faculty, and the intelligence, imagination, and achievements of its students. It is also well-known for its strong, well-supported and enthusiastic commitment to the principle of educating men and women for others, in a community that generates a strong feeling of belonging and a vital sense of loyalty.

As a Jesuit college, Holy Cross takes its place in a 450-year tradition of Catholic education that has distinguished itself for intellectual rigor, high academic standards, and religious and moral sensitivity. Academic life at Holy Cross is serious and challenging; it is also exciting. This excitement is one of discovery: students discovering new things in literature, science, the arts, mathematics, religion; professors discovering new things through their research, in their laboratories, and in the libraries. Student-professor exchanges in the classroom, as well as in countless informal settings, are at the center of academic life at Holy Cross. Because the student body is 100 percent undergraduate and relatively small, the opportunity for individual attention is readily available. Students know their professors. Professors know and take a genuine interest in their students.

The College recognizes that its professional and talented faculty members constitute the particular ingredient that ultimately shapes the educational experience. They are widely respected in their academic specialties. Many have national reputations for their research and publications, creative performances, recordings, and exhibitions. Almost all of the nearly 250 full- and part-time faculty members hold doctoral degrees from some of the finest universities here and abroad. They conduct research supported by grants from foundations, government agencies, and private sources.

Holy Cross faculty members also are dedicated to excellence in teaching and to service. They strike an appropriate balance between the transmission of knowledge and the investigation of new ideas. This insures that the classroom is vital and that scholarly research is meaningful. It is the faculty that leavens the whole and is largely responsible for the reputation of Holy Cross as an excellent liberal arts college.

Holy Cross is a leader among those institutions that aspire to excellence in undergraduate education. In recent years, its leadership has been demonstrated by:

- Grants totaling \$1.25 million from IBM and the Andrew W. Mellon, W.M. Keck, 3M, Charles E. Culpeper, and Arthur Vining Davis Foundations to develop a state-of-the-art Multimedia Resource Center and a guided, self-paced foreign language instruction program.
- Membership in the New England Consortium for Undergraduate Science Education, a group of the region's strongest undergraduate science institutions working toward strengthening undergraduate science instruction with the aid of grants from the Pew Memorial Trust.
- A Luce Professorship in Religion, Economic Development and Social Justice supported by a \$750,000 grant from the Henry Luce Foundation.
- A Kraft-Hiatt Professorship in Comparative Religion to create an endowed chair in Judaic Studies at the College of the Holy Cross and in Christian Studies at Brandeis University and to involve the two schools in joint academic activities designed to foster mutual understanding and respect among Christians and Jews.
- A grant of \$900,000 from the National Science Foundation for renovations to enhance chemistry laboratories that support faculty research and research-training.
- A grant of \$500,000 from the Kresge Foundation for the purchase of new scientific instrumentation. As part of the award, Holy Cross has established a \$2 million endowment for the modernization, replacement, and repair of its scientific equipment.
- Three grants totaling \$2.25 million from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute to support: (1) stipends for Holy Cross students in summer science research programs; (2) instrumentation for the biological psychology concentration, the biochemistry concentration, and for courses in molecular biology; (3) advanced training for Holy Cross science faculty; (4) summer and year-long retraining programs for science and mathematics teachers in the Worcester Public Schools; and (5) programs of science instruction for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade minority students from the Worcester Public Schools.
- A grant totaling \$443,000 from the Sherman Fairchild Foundation to replace and upgrade laboratory equipment used in teaching introductory science courses for physics and biology majors and non-majors.

- A \$500,000 challenge grant from the Davis Educational Foundation and a \$400,000 challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation for renovations to the Music Department and to convert Fenwick Chapel to the state-of-the-art John E. Brooks, S.J., Center for Music.

Holy Cross is a place to learn how to learn, and not a place to seek job training. The fundamental purpose of the College is not to train students for specific occupations, but to inform the mind and to foster clear thought and expression through the balanced study of the arts and the sciences.

A distinguishing and all-important characteristic of education at Holy Cross is the emphasis placed upon the service of faith and the promotion of justice. As a Jesuit college, the cultivation of intellectual, social, religious, and ethical refinement is not an end in itself. Rather, it has as its purpose the advancement of the Kingdom of God in His people. In the concrete, this means educating young people to be truly concerned about human welfare, about making our economies more just, and about placing men and women in public office who are honest and honorable. It has as its purpose the education of men and women who in their family life will be examples of Catholic ideals and practice and who will be leaders in their parishes and in their communities.

## Founding

The oldest Catholic college in New England, Holy Cross was founded in 1843 by the second bishop of Boston, Benedict Joseph Fenwick, S.J., who gave it the name of his cathedral, the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, along with the seal and motto of the Diocese of Boston.

From the start, the Bishop entrusted the direction of the College to the Fathers of the Society of Jesus. The beginnings were very modest: one wooden building, a half-finished brick structure, and 52 acres of land.

Today the College is a large educational complex, complete with chapel, libraries, a modern science center, classrooms, residence halls, football stadium, hockey rink, and campus activity center, spread over 174 sloping acres. It is a community of 2,600 students, half of them men and half women. Few classes exceed an enrollment of 40, and most average 22. The atmosphere this community of scholars creates is frequently described as welcoming and friendly, where students receive encouragement and support from classmates and professors.

Coeducational since 1972, Holy Cross enrolls a student body of young men and women of proven accomplishment. Almost all of them have been graduated in the top 20 percent of their high school classes. Most live in nine residence halls on campus. These are run by the Dean of Students Office with the help of students who organize the many activities through their House Councils. Students, elected by their peers, represent their classmates at faculty meetings, on major College committees, and in a consultative capacity on the appointment and promotion of faculty.

## Affiliations

The College of the Holy Cross is a member of, or accredited by, the following educational institutions: American Academy of Religion, American Academy in Rome, American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, American Association of Higher Education, American Association of University Women, American Conference of Academic Deans, American Council of Learned Societies, American Film Federation Society, Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, American Council on Education, American Mathematical Society, American School of Classical Studies of Athens, American School for Oriental Research, Association of American Colleges, Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts, College Entrance Examination Board, College Placement Council, Consortium of Supporting Institutions of the Hebrew Union College Biblical and Archaeological School of Jerusalem, Council for Advancement and Support of Higher Education, Educational Testing Service, Institute of European Studies, Mathematical Association of America, National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, Catholic Education Association (National and New England), National Commission on Accrediting, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Society for Scientific Study of Religion, Sigma Xi and the Colleges of Worcester Consortium.

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# The Academic Program

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## General Requirements

Holy Cross offers a curriculum leading to the Bachelor of Arts (A.B.) degree. The successful completion of 32 semester courses in eight semesters of full-time study is required for graduation.

To qualify for a degree from the College, at least one half of a student's courses, including the two full semesters of the fourth year, must be completed at the College of the Holy Cross. Students are permitted, however, to participate in the Washington Semester and Semester Away programs through the Center for Interdisciplinary and Special Studies in the first semester of their fourth year.

Each student's curriculum consists of a language requirement, distribution requirements, a major, and free electives.

## Language Requirement

All students must demonstrate competence in a classical, modern foreign, or American Sign language. Competence is demonstrated in one of the following ways: scoring 600 or higher in a College Board Achievement Test, getting a 3 or better in an Advanced Placement Test, passing one of the qualifying examinations that are administered each semester by the Departments of Classics and Modern Languages and Literatures, or successfully completing the second semester of an intermediate-level language course at Holy Cross. Students who intend to satisfy the language requirement by studying a language at Holy Cross are urged to complete the necessary coursework early in their academic program. Students should plan to satisfy the language requirement by the end of their second year.

## Distribution Requirements

Students are required to complete successfully courses in the six areas of the curriculum described below. A total of ten distribution courses is required. No more than two courses in any one department may be counted toward the distribution requirements.

### The Arts and Literature

The arts and literature are concerned with the study and experience of aesthetic forms as expressions of meaning. Literature and the arts involve the study of both the aesthetic and creative aspects of human expression and an appreciation of the process involved.

*Requirement:* 1 course in the arts; 1 course in literature.

### Religious and Philosophical Studies

The study of religious experience addresses the human quest for ultimate meaning as discovered in the relation of natural to supernatural, finite to infinite, temporal to eternal. The long-standing Jesuit tradition of Holy Cross gives it the freedom to advocate the educational importance of this area.

The distinctive function of philosophical studies is the rational interpretation (analysis, evaluation, synthesis) of meanings and values wherever they are found.

*Requirement:* 1 course each in religious and philosophical studies.

### Historical Studies

Historical studies involve the description, ordering, and interpretation of the past. Through the study of what people have done and what they have become, historical studies clarify the meaning of human experience.

*Requirement:* 1 course.

### Cross-Cultural Studies

Cross-cultural studies examine contemporary societies and cultures other than one's own. Courses in this area are intended to expand one's frame of reference by providing an awareness of the similarities and differences among the peoples of the world, as well as to foster a sense of belonging to a larger community.

*Requirement:* 1 course.